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8-YEAR-OLD HISTORIAN

The Aug. 15 issue of *Time*, the weekly newsmagazine, contains an interesting article about espionage systems, ancient and modern. And there is a little story about Allen Dulles, younger brother of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

Allen Dulles, now head of our Central Intelligence Agency, demonstrated his knowledge of the problems of international relations at a very tender age. When he was only 8 years old he wrote a 31-page history of the Boer War, severely criticizing the British. Fond relatives arranged to have the booklet published, and despite wrong grammar and juvenile misspellings, it sold 4,000 copies and earned \$1,500, which was turned over to a Boer relief fund.

This youthful literary effort served Dulles well in 1920 when he asked Columbia Professor Henry A. Todd for permission to marry his daughter, Clover. Prof. Todd, a man with deep respect for men of literary learning, rushed over to the Columbia library to see whether Dulles had published anything. He found a card which read, "Dulles, Allen W.—The Boer War; a History." Without further research, Prof. Todd promptly gave his consent to the marriage.

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